

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Osamu TANITSU et al.

Application No.: 09/326,214

Filed: June 3, 1999

Group Art Unit: 2851

Examiner: A. Mathews

Docket No.: 103512.99

#15
4/24/02
ajr

For: ILLUMINATION OPTICAL APPARATUS AND SCANNING EXPOSURE APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

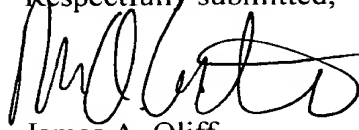
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Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
 - ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information.
- ☒ 3. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

- ☒ 4. Partial translations of JP-A-1-311502 and JP-A-2-48627 are also attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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